

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0012] with the following amended paragraph:

[0012] Figure 1 shows a mesh screen apparatus 10 constructed in accordance with the present invention. Mesh screen apparatus 10 comprises a mesh medium 12 and a perforated base pipe 14 (Figure 2). Mesh medium 12 comprises fiber strands 16, preferably made of metal. In one embodiment, fibers 16 are intermeshed in orthogonal directions to form a layer 17, and multiple layers 17 are then stacked upon each other, as illustrated in Figure 2. If multiple layers are used, preferably the layers are interlocked.

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

[0013] A method of producing such an interlocking, layered embodiment of mesh medium 12 is to use needles to punch through the stacked layers of fibers 16. Needles having prongs can be pushed back and forth through the layers, interlocking fibers 16 from different layers. As illustrated in Figure 2, individual fibers 16 from each layer 17 are pushed into adjacent layers 17. If desired, the resulting blanket of mesh medium 12 can then be formed into a seamless tube, as shown in Figure 1.